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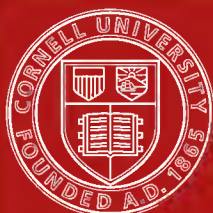
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A. M. BELL,

F. E. I. S., F. R. S. S. A., F. A. A. A. S.

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BIOGRAPHY AND BIBLIOGRAPHY.

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## BIOGRAPHY.

PROFESSOR ALEXANDER MELVILLE BELL is the younger son of the late Alexander Bell, professor of elocution in London and author of several well-known works, including "The Practical Elocutionist," "A Treatise on Public Reading," "An Edition of the New Testament, with Rhetorical Punctuation;" "The Bride," a play; "The Tongue," a poem, etc. Professor A. Melville Bell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, March 1, 1819; attended school in Dundee, but was mainly educated at home. In 1842, when twenty-three years of age, he announced to his friends that he had formulated a new theory of articulation and vocal expression. His father, although he did not endorse all the son's conclusions, gave a general approval, summing up his kindly criticisms with the wise and true adage, "That which is best administered is best."

The following year, 1843, he contemplated leaving his home in London—where his father was engaged at the time in his profession—for the United States, but was prevailed upon to accept engagements in Edinburgh. There he taught classes in connection with the university, and also with the new college, until the death of his father in 1865, when he returned to London. His elder brother, Professor David C. Bell, meantime had been teaching in Dublin,—the father and the two sons being thus leading elocutionists at the three capitals of England, Ireland, and Scotland.

Professor A. Melville Bell, in 1849, first published the results of his studies in an 8vo volume, entitled "A New Elucidation of the Principles of Speech and Elocution." This was followed at intervals by other books, and by reproductions of the original large work in two volumes, entitled "The Principles of Elocution" and "The Principles of Speech." He proved himself to be an indefatigable worker, as evinced by the publications issued at this

period. In appreciation of his labors, he was honored with the fellowship of the Educational Institute of Scotland, and likewise with the fellowship of the Royal Scottish Society of Arts,—the latter society, also, in special recognition of the system of phonetic short-hand writing which he devised, awarding to him its silver medal.

In the year 1868 Professor Bell gave his first course of lectures in the United States before the Lowell Institute, Boston, Mass.;—returning to his home in London, where he held the appointment of Lecturer on Elocution in University College. In 1870 he returned by invitation to the United States to deliver a second course of twelve lectures before the Lowell Institute; and he had the honor of supplementing the same the following year, 1871, with a third and similar course.

After 1870 Professor Bell remained on this side of the Atlantic, and took up his residence at Tutelo Heights, near Brantford, Ontario, Canada. For several years he held the professorship of elocution in Queen's College, Kingston, and gave courses of lectures in Montreal, Toronto, London, and other Canadian cities. He also officiated as a member of the Board of Instruction in the School of Vocal Physiology, established in Boston by his distinguished son, Dr. Alex. Graham Bell.

In 1881 Professor Bell permanently located in Washington, D. C., and engaged in literary work, preparing for publication and issuing several of his later books, occasionally responding to invitations for the delivery of lectures, and verbally imparting information to members of the profession who personally sought the advice of this Nestor of elocutionary science.

In 1885 Professor Bell was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and continues an active member of the Modern Language Association and divers other scientific and educational organizations.

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